

present application. Claim 12 stands withdrawn. The claim amendments do not add new matter. Accordingly, entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

1. Restriction / Election Requirement

The Official Action states that claims 1-12 are subject to a Restriction / Election Requirement according to the following Groups because “they lack the same or corresponding special technical features”:

Group I: claims 1-11, drawn to compounds and pharmaceutical compositions of formula I;

Group II: claim 12, drawn to a method of treating a gastrointestinal disorder within the scope of compounds of Group I.

ELECTION

Applicant confirms the telephonic election of Group I, drawn to claims 1-11.

However, applicant respectfully requests rejoinder of withdrawn claim 12 as all rejections will be overcome with this Response and Amendment and claims 1-11 will be in allowable form.

2. Rejection of claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. §112, 2nd paragraph

The Official Action states that claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, 2nd paragraph as being indefinite.

RESPONSE

Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. However, solely to remove the basis

of this rejection, applicant has canceled the rejected language from the claims, rendering the basis for this rejection moot.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

3. Rejection of claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. §112, 1st paragraph

The Official Action states that claims 1-11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, 1st paragraph as being non-enabled.

RESPONSE

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. However, solely to remove the basis of this rejection, applicants have amended claims 1-3, 5 and 7-10 to only recite the substituents which the Examiner has indicated are enabled. Claims 4 and 6 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer because, as a result of the aforementioned amendments, claims 4 and 6 were duplicate claims to claims 3 and 5, respectively.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

CONCLUSION

Based upon the above amendments and remarks submitted herewith, the presently claimed subject matter is believed to be novel and patentably distinguishable over the prior art of record. The Examiner is therefore respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections and allow all pending claims. Favorable action with an early allowance of the claims pending in this application is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is welcomed to telephone the undersigned attorney if she has any questions or comments.

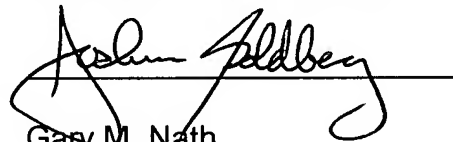
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Respectfully submitted,
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary M. Nath", is written over a horizontal line.

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